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September 18, 1998

Ms. Margit Aramburu
Delta Protection Commission
P.O. Box 530
Walnut Grove, CA 95690

Dear Margit:

The San Francisco Estuary Project will hold its fourth biennial State of the Estuary Conference on March 17, 18 and 19, 1999 in San Francisco. The conference is sponsored by the San Francisco Estuary Project, Friends of the San Francisco Estuary, San Francisco Estuary Institute and San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board.

The theme of this conference is "The Rehabilitation of the Estuary and Its Watersheds." Among the subjects to be covered are the Estuary's changing watershed, major stressors and implications for species decline and recovery, institutional hurdles and emerging issues. The conference will include presentations by the region's foremost scientists and resource managers, policy discussions and examples of model programs. Poster sessions will again be featured events at the late afternoon receptions on March 17 and 18.

The conference is part of the San Francisco Estuary Project's ongoing effort to educate and involve the public in protecting and restoring the Estuary. In addition to the technical presentations and panel discussions, four publications are planned - a special report on the status and trends of key indicators of the Estuary's health, an abstract book, an updated CCMP report card, and a post-conference State of the Estuary report based on the conference presentations, posters and related science.

The 1996 Conference was attended by nearly 650 persons and co-sponsored by 70 local, state and federal agencies, organizations and businesses. The conference was covered extensively by the media. We are working to make this event equally supported by the community.

We hope the Delta Protection Commission will again be one of the conference co-sponsors. We are asking for a contribution of \$100 (please make your check payable to SFEP/ABAG and mail to the above address.) You will be listed on all conference materials and will receive one complementary admission to the program on March 19 or half-price admission for the entire conference. If you need more information, please call me at (510) 653-5723.

Sincerely,

Joan Patton

Conference Manager